

# TERRENI

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May 16, 2022

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd  
Chief Clerk and Executive Director  
Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Docket No. 2022-96-T- Application of Gamecock Moving, LLC to Amend Its Existing Tariff and for Approval of a Low Country and Pee Dee Tariff -Staff Presents for Commission Consideration Gamecock Moving, LLC's Application to Amend Its Existing Tariff and for Approval of a Low Country and Pee Dee Tariff.

Dear Ms. Boyd:

I write this letter in response to Order No. 2022-322 in the above referenced docket which states:

I move the Commission require Counsel for Gamecock Moving to provide the Commission in writing additional information or submissions for a single tariff to be considered by the Commission. Regulation 103-197 provides that it is unlawful for a motor carrier to give an undue or unreasonable advantage to any locality or to subject any locality to any undue or unreasonable prejudice or disadvantage. Submitting different tariffs for the same services based on locality is contrary to this Regulation 103-197 which prohibits undue preference.

S.C. Code of Reg. 103-197 states:

Unless otherwise specifically exempted by the commission, it shall be unlawful for any motor carrier operating under a Certificate of PC&N or FWA to make, give, or cause any undue or unreasonable preference or advantage to any particular person, port, gateway, locality, or description of traffic in any respect whatsoever, or to subject any particular person, port, gateway, locality, or description of traffic to any unjust discrimination or any undue or unreasonable prejudice or disadvantage in any respect whatsoever.

S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-197 (Lexis Advance through State Register Volume 46, Issue 4, effective April 22, 2022)

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Gamecock Moving, LLC (“Gamecock”) is submitting additional information to justify the proposed tariffs. The information demonstrates the proposed tariffs comply with Regulation 103-197, and merely reflect differences in market conditions. The Charleston market is markedly more expensive to operate in than Columbia.

Labor is more expensive in Charleston than Columbia. Gamecock expects to pay employees in Charleston starting wages of \$15 to \$17 per hour and supervisors \$25 per hour. Instead, Gamecock’s Columbia employees earn \$13 to \$15 per hour, and its supervisors earn \$20 per hour. The difference in labor costs is consistent with data of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics which reports the mean hourly wage in the Charleston-North Charleston Metropolitan Statistical area in May of 2020 was \$24.43 and the mean wage for workers in Transportation and Material Moving was \$17.07. The mean hourly wage in Columbia during the same time period was \$22.80 and the mean wage for transportation and material moving workers was \$16.14. *See Exhibit A.*

A comparison of Gamecock’s proposed Charleston rate of \$120 per hour for two movers and a truck with comparable hourly rates of other Charleston based movers confirms the proposed tariff reflects market conditions. Indeed, Gamecock’s proposed rates are *lower* than rates the Commission has approved for other Charleston movers.

For example, the Commission recently approved rates for All My Sons Moving and Storage of Charleston, LLC (“All my Sons”). Order 2022-159 (April 4, 2022), Dkt. No. 2022-18-T. The All My Sons’ Charleston weekday hourly for two movers and a truck are \$129.00 per hour in “off peak” season and \$139 per hour in “peak” season, more than the “year around” Charleston rates proposed by Gamecock. It should be noted that All My Sons’ rates in Charleston are also higher than those charged by its Columbia counterpart. *See* Order No. 2020-328 (April 30, 2020), Dkt. No. 2020-37-T. The Commission also recently approved a tariff for North Charleston based ABA Moving & Storage, Inc. d/b/a Two Men and a Truck (“TMT”) this year. Order 2022-83 (Feb. 10, 2022), Dkt No. 2021-358-T. TMT’s hourly rates, which begin at \$134/hr. in “non-peak” season and \$139 for “peak” season, are also higher than Gamecock’s proposed rates.

Gamecock cannot afford to operate in Charleston charging Columbia rates. Nor can Gamecock remain competitive in Columbia charging the proposed Charleston rates. The record suggests that if Gamecock had franchised a separate carrier for the Charleston market, the rates of the new carrier would have been approved with no question of undue preference. S.C. Code Reg. 103-197 should not be construed to prevent a certificated carrier from charging competitive rates in different markets.

Gamecock therefore respectfully request the Commission approved its application.

TERRENI  
LAW FIRM, LLC

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd  
May 16, 2022  
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With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

*s/ Charlie Terreni*

Charles L.A. Terreni

c: Mr. Dominic Macioce

EXHIBIT A



For Release: Wednesday, June 09, 2021

21-948-ATL

SOUTHEAST INFORMATION OFFICE: Atlanta, Ga.

Technical information: (404) 893-4222 BLSInfoAtlanta@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/southeast

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## Occupational Employment and Wages in Charleston-North Charleston — May 2020

Workers in the Charleston-North Charleston, SC Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$24.43 in May 2020, about 10 percent below the nationwide average of \$27.07, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that, after testing for statistical significance, wages in the local area were lower than their respective national averages in 18 of the 22 major occupational groups, including arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media; computer and mathematical; and building and grounds cleaning and maintenance. Three groups had significantly higher wages than their respective national averages.

When compared to the nationwide distribution, Charleston area employment was more highly concentrated in 8 of the 22 occupational groups, including food preparation and serving related, healthcare practitioners and technical, and sales and related. Nine groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including educational instruction and library, healthcare support, and management. (See [table A.](#))

**Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Charleston metropolitan area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2020**

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Charleston	United States	Charleston	Percent difference <sup>(1)</sup>
Total, all occupations .....	100.0	100.0	\$27.07	\$24.43*	-10
Management .....	5.7	4.5*	60.81	58.81*	-3
Business and financial operations .....	6.0	5.2*	38.79	35.18*	-9
Computer and mathematical .....	3.3	3.3	46.53	39.50*	-15
Architecture and engineering .....	1.8	2.3*	43.41	39.90*	-8
Life, physical, and social science .....	0.9	0.6*	38.15	34.01*	-11
Community and social service .....	1.6	1.1*	25.09	23.17*	-8
Legal .....	0.8	0.9	54.00	41.40*	-23
Educational instruction and library .....	6.1	4.6*	28.75	23.28*	-19
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media .....	1.3	1.0*	30.96	24.35*	-21
Healthcare practitioners and technical .....	6.2	7.9*	41.30	38.58*	-7
Healthcare support .....	4.6	3.2*	15.50	15.93*	3
Protective service .....	2.4	2.2*	25.11	21.15*	-16
Food preparation and serving related .....	8.1	10.1*	13.30	12.05*	-9
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance .....	2.9	3.3*	15.75	13.86*	-12
Personal care and service .....	1.9	2.2*	15.68	14.74	-6
Sales and related .....	9.4	10.6*	22.00	19.39*	-12
Office and administrative support .....	13.3	13.4	20.38	19.47*	-4
Farming, fishing, and forestry .....	0.3	0.1*	16.02	18.56*	16

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Charleston metropolitan area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2020 - Continued**

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Charleston	United States	Charleston	Percent difference <sup>(1)</sup>
Construction and extraction.....	4.3	4.5*	25.93	23.02*	-11
Installation, maintenance, and repair .....	3.9	4.5*	25.17	23.96*	-5
Production .....	6.1	5.9	20.08	21.99*	10
Transportation and material moving.....	8.7	8.6	19.08	17.07*	-11

## Footnotes:

(1) A positive percent difference measures how much the mean wage in the Charleston-North Charleston, SC Metropolitan Statistical Area is above the national mean wage, while a negative difference reflects a lower wage.

\* The mean hourly wage or percent share of employment is significantly different from the national average of all areas at the 90-percent confidence level.

One occupational group—food preparation and serving related—was chosen to illustrate the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. Charleston had 34,650 jobs in food preparation and serving related occupations, accounting for 10.1 percent of local area employment, significantly higher than the 8.1-percent national share. The local average hourly wage for this occupational group was \$12.05, significantly lower than the national average of \$13.30.

Some of the larger detailed occupations within the food preparation and serving related group included fast food and counter workers (11,280), waiters and waitresses (6,020), and restaurant cooks (4,620). Among the higher-paying jobs in this group were chefs and head cooks and also first-line supervisors of food preparation and serving workers, with mean hourly wages of \$20.24 and \$18.93, respectively. At the lower end of the wage scale were restaurant, lounge, and coffee shop hosts and hostesses (\$9.08) and waiters and waitresses (\$9.82). (Detailed data for the food preparation and serving related occupations are presented in [table 1](#); for a complete listing of detailed occupations, go to [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_16700.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_16700.htm).)

Location quotients allow us to explore the occupational make-up of a metropolitan area by comparing the composition of jobs in an area relative to the national average. (See [table 1](#).) For example, a location quotient of 2.0 indicates that an occupation accounts for twice the share of employment in the area than it does nationally. In the Charleston area, above-average concentrations of employment were found in a few of the occupations within the food preparation and serving related group. For instance, restaurant cooks were employed at 1.7 times the national rate in Charleston, and institution and cafeteria cooks, at 1.5 times the U.S. average. Bartenders had a location quotient of 1.1 in Charleston, indicating that this particular occupation's local and national employment shares were similar.

These statistics are from the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) survey, a federal-state cooperative program between BLS and State Workforce Agencies, in this case, the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce.

## **Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) Name Change**

The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program has changed its name to Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) to better reflect the range of data available from the program. Data released on or after March 31, 2021, will reflect the new program name. Webpages, publications, and other materials associated with previous data releases will retain the Occupational Employment Statistics name.

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Impact on May 2020 Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics**

Due to features of the OEWS methodology, the May 2020 OEWS estimates do not fully reflect the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The May 2020 OEWS estimates are based on survey panels collected for May 2020, November 2019, May 2019, November 2018, May 2018, and November 2017. Because 5 of the 6 survey panels used to produce the estimates date from before the COVID-19 pandemic, only the most recent (May 2020) survey panel reflects changes in occupational proportions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The May 2020 OEWS employment estimates are benchmarked to the average of May 2020 and November 2019 employment from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW). Although the May 2020 QCEW data reflect the early employment effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the November 2019 QCEW employment data precede the pandemic, and therefore do not reflect its impact.

In addition, as a result of the pandemic, response rates for the November 2019 and May 2020 panels were lower in some areas. Lower response rates may negatively affect data availability and data quality.

More information is available at [www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-occupational-employment-and-wage-statistics.htm](http://www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-occupational-employment-and-wage-statistics.htm).

## **Implementing the 2018 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) System**

With the May 2019 estimates, the OEWS program began implementing the 2018 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system. Because the May 2019 and May 2020 estimates are based on a combination of survey data collected using the 2010 SOC and survey data collected using the 2018 SOC, these estimates use a hybrid of the two classification systems that contains some combinations of occupations that are not found in either the 2010 or 2018 SOC. This is the second and final year that the hybrid occupational structure will be used. The May 2021 estimates, to be published in Spring 2022, will be the first OEWS estimates based entirely on survey data collected using the 2018 SOC.

For more information on the occupational classification system used in the May 2019 and May 2020 estimates, please see [www.bls.gov/oes/soc\\_2018.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/soc_2018.htm) and [www.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_ques.htm#qf10](http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes_ques.htm#qf10).

## Upcoming Changes to the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics Methodology

With the May 2021 estimates, to be released in Spring 2022, the OEWS program plans to begin using a new estimation methodology. The new model-based methodology, called MB3, has advantages over the existing methodology, as described in the Monthly Labor Review article at [www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2019/article/model-based-estimates-for-the-occupational-employment-statistics-program.htm](http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2019/article/model-based-estimates-for-the-occupational-employment-statistics-program.htm). OEWS estimates for the years 2015-2018 were recalculated using the new estimation methodology and are available as research estimates at [www.bls.gov/oes/oes-mb3-methods.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes-mb3-methods.htm).

## Technical Note

The Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) survey is a semiannual survey measuring occupational employment and wage rates for wage and salary workers in nonfarm establishments in the United States. The OEWS data available from BLS include cross-industry occupational employment and wage estimates for the nation; over 580 areas, including states and the District of Columbia, metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), nonmetropolitan areas, and territories; national industry-specific estimates at the NAICS sector, 3-digit, most 4-digit, and selected 5- and 6-digit industry levels, and national estimates by ownership across all industries and for schools and hospitals. OEWS data are available at [www.bls.gov/oes/tables.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/tables.htm).

The OEWS survey is a cooperative effort between BLS and the State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). BLS funds the survey and provides the procedures and technical support, while the State Workforce Agencies collect most of the data. OEWS estimates are constructed from a sample of about 1.1 million establishments. Each year, two semiannual panels of approximately 180,000 to 185,000 sampled establishments are contacted, one panel in May and the other in November. Responses are obtained by mail, Internet or other electronic means, email, telephone, or personal visit. The May 2020 estimates are based on responses from six semiannual panels collected over a 3-year period: May 2020, November 2019, May 2019, November 2018, May 2018, and November 2017. The unweighted sample employment of 83 million across all six semiannual panels represents approximately 56 percent of total national employment. The overall national response rate for the six panels, based on the 50 states and the District of Columbia, is 69 percent based on establishments and 66 percent based on weighted sampled employment. The sample in the Charleston-North Charleston, SC Metropolitan Statistical Area included 2,658 establishments with a response rate of 62 percent. For more information about OEWS concepts and methodology, go to [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_tec.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_tec.htm).

A value that is statistically different from another does not necessarily mean that the difference has economic or practical significance. Statistical significance is concerned with the ability to make confident statements about a universe based on a sample. It is entirely possible that a large difference between two values is not significantly different statistically, while a small difference is, since both the size and heterogeneity of the sample affect the relative error of the data being tested.

### Metropolitan area definitions

The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

The **Charleston-North Charleston, SC Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester Counties.

### For more information



Answers to frequently asked questions about the OEWS data are available at [www.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_ques.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes_ques.htm). Detailed information about the OEWS program is available at [www.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_doc.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes_doc.htm).

Information in this release will be made available to individuals with sensory impairments upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data for food preparation and serving related occupations, Charleston metropolitan area, May 2020**

Occupation <sup>(1)</sup>	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level <sup>(2)</sup>	Location quotient <sup>(3)</sup>	Hourly	Annual <sup>(4)</sup>
Food preparation and serving related occupations .....	34,650	1.3	\$12.05	\$25,070
Chefs and head cooks.....	780	3.1	20.24	42,100
First-line supervisors of food preparation and serving workers.....	2,920	1.3	18.93	39,360
Cooks, fast food .....	860	0.6	10.17	21,140
Cooks, institution and cafeteria .....	1,390	1.5	11.31	23,530
Cooks, restaurant.....	4,620	1.7	13.15	27,360
Cooks, short order.....	(5)	(5)	11.94	24,840
Food preparation workers .....	1,130	0.6	13.97	29,070
Bartenders.....	1,320	1.1	15.47	32,180
Fast food and counter workers.....	11,280	1.3	10.81	22,490
Waiters and waitresses .....	6,020	1.3	9.82	20,420
Food servers, nonrestaurant .....	480	0.8	11.62	24,180
Dining room and cafeteria attendants and bartender helpers.....	530	0.6	11.38	23,670
Dishwashers.....	860	0.9	10.70	22,250
Hosts and hostesses, restaurant, lounge, and coffee shop.....	2,150	2.8	9.08	18,890

## Footnotes:

(1) For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in the Charleston-North Charleston, SC Metropolitan Statistical Area, see [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_16700.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_16700.htm)

(2) Estimates for detailed occupations may not sum to the totals due to rounding, and because the totals may include occupations that are not shown separately. Estimates do not include self-employed workers.

(3) The location quotient is the ratio of the area concentration of occupational employment to the national average concentration. A location quotient greater than one indicates the occupation has a higher share of employment than average, and a location quotient less than one indicates the occupation is less prevalent in the area than average.

(4) Annual wages have been calculated by multiplying the hourly mean wage by a "year-round, full-time" hours figure of 2,080 hours; for those occupations where there is not an hourly mean wage published, the annual wage has been directly calculated from the reported survey data.

(5) Estimate not released.



**For Release: Wednesday, June 09, 2021**

**21-933-ATL**

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## Occupational Employment and Wages in Columbia — May 2020

Workers in the Columbia, SC Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$22.80 in May 2020, about 16 percent below the nationwide average of \$27.07, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that, after testing for statistical significance, wages in the local area were lower than their respective national averages in 19 of the 22 major occupational groups, including computer and mathematical, food preparation and serving related, and business and financial operations. Three groups had wages that were not significantly different from their respective national averages.

When compared to the nationwide distribution, Columbia area employment was more highly concentrated in 5 of the 22 occupational groups, including office and administrative support, sales and related, and protective service. Eleven groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including management, business and financial operations, and healthcare support. (See [table A.](#))

**Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Columbia metropolitan area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2020**

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Columbia	United States	Columbia	Percent difference <sup>(1)</sup>
Total, all occupations .....	100.0	100.0	\$27.07	\$22.80*	-16
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Business and financial operations .....	6.0	5.2*	38.79	31.54*	-19
Computer and mathematical .....	3.3	2.9*	46.53	35.48*	-24
Architecture and engineering .....	1.8	1.3*	43.41	35.59*	-18
Life, physical, and social science .....	0.9	0.6*	38.15	31.19*	-18
Community and social service .....	1.6	2.0*	25.09	21.21*	-15
Legal .....	0.8	1.1*	54.00	40.86*	-24
Educational instruction and library .....	6.1	5.6*	28.75	27.25	-5
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media .....	1.3	1.0*	30.96	25.93*	-16
Healthcare practitioners and technical .....	6.2	6.1	41.30	37.81*	-8
Healthcare support .....	4.6	4.1*	15.50	13.83*	-11
Protective service .....	2.4	3.3*	25.11	18.78*	-25
Food preparation and serving related .....	8.1	7.8	13.30	10.66*	-20
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance ...	2.9	2.8	15.75	13.30*	-16
Personal care and service .....	1.9	1.7*	15.68	14.40*	-8
Sales and related .....	9.4	10.7*	22.00	18.30*	-17
Office and administrative support .....	13.3	15.8*	20.38	18.37*	-10
Farming, fishing, and forestry .....	0.3	0.2*	16.02	17.23	8
Construction and extraction .....	4.3	3.8*	25.93	21.40*	-17
Installation, maintenance, and repair .....	3.9	4.0	25.17	23.45*	-7
Production .....	6.1	6.5	20.08	19.48	-3

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

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Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Columbia	United States	Columbia	Percent difference <sup>(1)</sup>
Transportation and material moving .....	8.7	8.8	19.08	16.14*	-15

## Footnotes:

(1) A positive percent difference measures how much the mean wage in the Columbia, SC Metropolitan Statistical Area is above the national mean wage, while a negative difference reflects a lower wage.

\* The mean hourly wage or percent share of employment is significantly different from the national average of all areas at the 90-percent confidence level.

One occupational group—office and administrative support—was chosen to illustrate the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. Columbia had 58,840 jobs in office and administrative support occupations, accounting for 15.8 percent of local area employment, significantly higher than the 13.3-percent national share. The local average hourly wage for this occupational group was \$18.37, significantly lower than the national average of \$20.38.

Some of the larger detailed occupations within the office and administrative support group included customer service representatives (12,590); secretaries and administrative assistants, except legal, medical, and executive (8,580); and general office clerks (7,160). Among the higher-paying jobs in this group were executive secretaries and executive administrative assistants and also first-line supervisors of office and administrative support workers, with mean hourly wages of \$28.40 and \$27.64, respectively. At the lower end of the wage scale were hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks (\$11.69) and couriers and messengers (\$12.60). (Detailed data for the office and administrative support occupations are presented in [table 1](#); for a complete listing of detailed occupations, go to [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_17900.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_17900.htm).)

Location quotients allow us to explore the occupational make-up of a metropolitan area by comparing the composition of jobs in an area relative to the national average. (See [table 1](#).) For example, a location quotient of 2.0 indicates that an occupation accounts for twice the share of employment in the area than it does nationally. In the Columbia area, above-average concentrations of employment were found in some of the occupations within the office and administrative support group. For instance, bill and account collectors were employed at 2.2 times the national rate in Columbia, and insurance claims and policy processing clerks, at 2.1 times the U.S. average. General office clerks had a location quotient of 1.0 in Columbia, indicating that this particular occupation's local and national employment shares were similar.

These statistics are from the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) survey, a federal-state cooperative program between BLS and State Workforce Agencies, in this case, the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce.

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## **Implementing the 2018 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) System**

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For more information on the occupational classification system used in the May 2019 and May 2020 estimates, please see [www.bls.gov/oes/soc\\_2018.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/soc_2018.htm) and [www.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_ques.htm#qf10](http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes_ques.htm#qf10).

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## Technical Note

The Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) survey is a semiannual survey measuring occupational employment and wage rates for wage and salary workers in nonfarm establishments in the United States. The OEWS data available from BLS include cross-industry occupational employment and wage estimates for the nation; over 580 areas, including states and the District of Columbia, metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), nonmetropolitan areas, and territories; national industry-specific estimates at the NAICS sector, 3-digit, most 4-digit, and selected 5- and 6-digit industry levels, and national estimates by ownership across all industries and for schools and hospitals. OEWS data are available at [www.bls.gov/oes/tables.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/tables.htm).

The OEWS survey is a cooperative effort between BLS and the State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). BLS funds the survey and provides the procedures and technical support, while the State Workforce Agencies collect most of the data. OEWS estimates are constructed from a sample of about 1.1 million establishments. Each year, two semiannual panels of approximately 180,000 to 185,000 sampled establishments are contacted, one panel in May and the other in November. Responses are obtained by mail, Internet or other electronic means, email, telephone, or personal visit. The May 2020 estimates are based on responses from six semiannual panels collected over a 3-year period: May 2020, November 2019, May 2019, November 2018, May 2018, and November 2017. The unweighted sample employment of 83 million across all six semiannual panels represents approximately 56 percent of total national employment. The overall national response rate for the six panels, based on the 50 states and the District of Columbia, is 69 percent based on establishments and 66 percent based on weighted sampled employment. The sample in the Columbia, SC Metropolitan Statistical Area included 2,714 establishments with a response rate of 64 percent. For more information about OEWS concepts and methodology, go to [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_tec.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_tec.htm).

A value that is statistically different from another does not necessarily mean that the difference has economic or practical significance. Statistical significance is concerned with the ability to make confident statements about a universe based on a sample. It is entirely possible that a large difference between two values is not significantly different statistically, while a small difference is, since both the size and heterogeneity of the sample affect the relative error of the data being tested.

## Metropolitan area definitions

The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

The **Columbia, SC Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes Calhoun, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lexington, Richland, and Saluda Counties.

## For more information

Answers to frequently asked questions about the OEWS data are available at [www.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_ques.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes_ques.htm). Detailed information about the OEWS program is available at [www.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_doc.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes_doc.htm).

Information in this release will be made available to individuals with sensory impairments upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data for office and administrative support occupations, Columbia metropolitan area, May 2020**

Occupation <sup>(1)</sup>	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level <sup>(2)</sup>	Location quotient <sup>(3)</sup>	Hourly	Annual <sup>(4)</sup>
Office and administrative support occupations.....	58,840	1.2	\$18.37	\$38,200
First-line supervisors of office and administrative support workers.....	5,450	1.4	27.64	57,490
Switchboard operators, including answering service .....	260	1.6	14.95	31,090
Bill and account collectors.....	1,290	2.2	16.52	34,370
Billing and posting clerks.....	940	0.8	17.30	35,970
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks .....	3,180	0.8	17.97	37,370
Procurement clerks .....	360	2.2	19.42	40,400
Tellers .....	1,010	0.9	15.54	32,320
Brokerage clerks .....	40	0.4	22.86	47,540
Court, municipal, and license clerks.....	320	0.8	17.48	36,370
Credit authorizers, checkers, and clerks .....	50	0.7	20.75	43,150
Customer service representatives.....	12,590	1.7	16.92	35,190
Eligibility interviewers, government programs.....	40	0.1	22.99	47,810
File clerks .....	200	0.8	14.39	29,930
Hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks .....	410	0.7	11.69	24,310
Interviewers, except eligibility and loan .....	700	1.5	14.58	30,330
Library assistants, clerical .....	200	0.9	13.47	28,010
Loan interviewers and clerks.....	520	1.0	19.63	40,830
New accounts clerks .....	50	0.4	16.34	34,000
Order clerks.....	160	0.5	15.80	32,850
Human resources assistants, except payroll and timekeeping .....	280	1.0	19.96	41,510
Receptionists and information clerks.....	2,000	0.8	13.70	28,500
Information and record clerks, all other .....	260	0.7	22.07	45,900
Cargo and freight agents.....	70	0.3	20.16	41,920
Couriers and messengers .....	500	2.7	12.60	26,220
Public safety telecommunicators.....	80	0.3	15.75	32,760
Dispatchers, except police, fire, and ambulance.....	400	0.8	20.39	42,410
Meter readers, utilities .....	110	1.5	19.47	40,500
Postal service clerks.....	200	0.8	22.53	46,860
Postal service mail carriers .....	890	1.0	25.03	52,060
Postal service mail sorters, processors, and processing machine operators.....	450	1.6	23.90	49,720
Production, planning, and expediting clerks.....	720	0.8	24.80	51,590
Shipping, receiving, and inventory clerks.....	1,680	0.9	16.62	34,570
Weighers, measurers, checkers, and samplers, recordkeeping.....	160	1.0	16.09	33,470
Executive secretaries and executive administrative assistants .....	970	0.7	28.40	59,060
Legal secretaries and administrative assistants.....	500	1.2	22.26	46,300
Medical secretaries and administrative assistants .....	1,690	1.1	17.55	36,510
Secretaries and administrative assistants, except legal, medical, and executive.....	8,580	1.7	19.69	40,950
Data entry keyers .....	580	1.4	14.10	29,330
Insurance claims and policy processing clerks .....	1,370	2.1	19.03	39,590
Mail clerks and mail machine operators, except postal service .....	240	1.1	15.34	31,910
Office clerks, general.....	7,160	1.0	13.78	28,660

## Footnotes:

(1) For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in the Columbia, SC Metropolitan Statistical Area, see [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_17900.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_17900.htm)

(2) Estimates for detailed occupations may not sum to the totals due to rounding, and because the totals may include occupations that are not shown separately. Estimates do not include self-employed workers.

(3) The location quotient is the ratio of the area concentration of occupational employment to the national average concentration. A location quotient greater than one indicates the occupation has a higher share of employment than average, and a location quotient less than one indicates the occupation is less prevalent in the area than average.

(4) Annual wages have been calculated by multiplying the hourly mean wage by a "year-round, full-time" hours figure of 2,080 hours; for those occupations where there is not an hourly mean wage published, the annual wage has been directly calculated from the reported survey data.